



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.
530 VIRGINIA ROAD
P.O. BOX 9133
CONCORD MA 01742-9133

COPY MAILED

JAN 16 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

HELLER, et al.

Application No. 09/871,154

Filed: May 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 2479.2091-000.

DECISION ON PETITION
TO WITHDRAW
FROM RECORD

This is a decision on the Request to Withdraw as attorney or agent of record under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36(b), filed November 22, 2006.

The request is **NOT APPROVED**.

A grantable request to withdraw as attorney/agent of record must be signed by every attorney/agent seeking to withdraw or contain a clear indication that one attorney is signing on behalf of another/others. A request to withdraw will not be approved unless at least 30 (thirty) days would remain between the date of approval and the later of the expiration date of a time to file a response or the expiration date of the maximum time period which can be extended under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

The Office cannot approve the request at this time since the reasons provided do not meet any of the conditions under the mandatory or permissive categories enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40. Section 10.40 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulation states, “[a] practitioner shall not withdraw from employment in a proceeding before the Office without permission from the Office[.]” More specifically, 37 CFR 10.40 states, “[i]f paragraph (b) of this section is not applicable, a practitioner may not request permission to withdraw in matter pending before the Office unless such request or such withdrawal is” for one the permissive reasons listed in 37 CFR 10.40(c). The reasons set forth in the request, “assignee discharged the firm and requested transfer of file”, does not meet any of the conditions set forth in 37 CFR 10.40.

In order to request or take action in a patent matter, the assignee must establish its ownership of the patent to the satisfaction of the Director. In this regard, a Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) must have either: (i) documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee (e.g., copy of an executed assignment), and a statement affirming that the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was or concurrently is being

submitted for recordation pursuant to § 3.11; or (ii) a statement specifying where documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee is recorded in the assignment records of the Office (*e.g.*, reel and frame number).

All future communications from the Office will continue to be directed to the above-listed address until otherwise notified by applicant.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at 571-272-7253.



Monica A. Graves
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: **VOLPE AND KOEING PC**
30 SOUTH 17TH STREET, SUITE 1600
UNITED PLAZA
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103